



Sen. Reid unveils first in series of jobs bills 'to put America back to work'

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Washington, Feb. 11 – Moving fast on Thursday to replace a bipartisan jobs bill he didn't like, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) unveiled the first of several job creation bills as part of an overall Senate Democratic jobs agenda. Reid's office explained that "With millions of Americans struggling to find work, creating and saving jobs and strengthening the economy is priority one for Senate Democrats.

This bill leaves a number of issues such as extending biodiesel and other tax breaks for later legislation. It includes offsetting cuts to balance new outlays and is intended to:

- Create tax incentives to spur immediate job growth
- Help small businesses grow and hire more workers
- Rebuild highways and other infrastructure

A Reid spokesman explained that Reid expects the bill to pass quickly because "the ideas adopted in this initial bill enjoy bipartisan support." Once this initial bill is passed, Reid's office says, Senate Democrats will work on passing additional legislation "to strengthen the economy, support out-of-work Americans and encourage businesses to hire more workers."

"People in Nevada and all across the country are struggling to find work and go to bed each night without the peace of mind that they deserve," Reid said. "This is a simplified, focused bill that addresses our core priority: putting millions of Americans back to work by helping our business community thrive again. Each piece of this bill enjoys bipartisan support, and I look forward to swift action on this measure that will create and save dependable jobs."

This Senate Democratic job creation bill is a simplified, focused effort that is geared toward making our economy thrive again. The provisions of this bill will encourage businesses hire more workers, give tax breaks to strengthen small businesses and invest wisely to rebuild America's infrastructure.

The proposed Reid bill includes:

- **Schumer-Hatch Jobs Payroll Tax Exemption:** offers an exemption from social security payroll taxes for every worker hired in 2010 who has been unemployed for at least 60 days. There would also be an additional \$1,000 income tax credit for every new employee retained for 52 weeks to be taken on the employer's 2011 income tax return.
- **Section 179 Expensing:** helps small businesses grow by allowing them to write off more of their expenditures
- **Highway Trust Fund Extension:** extends existing highway programs which provide states and localities with the certainty they need to make decisions on projects. It allows for billions more to be invested in infrastructure throughout the nation and saves one million jobs
- **Expanding Build America Bonds:** allows state and local governments to borrow at lower costs to finance more infrastructure projects and put people to work.

For more on Sen. Reid's reasons for replacing the proposed Baucus/Grassley jobs bill with his own version, go to: www.agri-pulse.com/uploaded/Feb1110H2.pdf.

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